



The Safety Expressway

Motorists warned: *If over the limit, you'll be under arrest*

April Brown's husband was just 26 years old when he was killed by a drunken driver. She was three months pregnant. "We had our whole lives ahead of us. But in an instant, that all changed because of someone else's thoughtless decision to drive," she said.

Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. Across the country, more than 13,000 people are killed each year in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 or higher.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) joined thousands of law enforcement and highway safety agencies across the nation from Aug. 15 through Labor Day to take part in the "*Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest*" crackdown on impaired driving. Law enforcement, highway safety specialists and community leaders met Aug. 14 at the Capitol in Frankfort to launch the campaign.

"A BAC of 0.08 is the legal limit," said Billie Johnson, assistant director of the Office of Highway Safety Programs. "But that doesn't necessarily mean you can safely drive at 0.07. Everyone's different, and the rule should be – don't get behind the wheel if you've had anything at all to drink."



Billie Johnson, assistant director of the Office of Highway Safety Programs

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Transportation Secretary Joe Prather

Transportation Secretary Joe Prather, the Governor's Representative for Highway Safety, said KYTC has a responsibility to make Kentucky's roads as safe as possible. "This aggressive campaign is an example of our commitment to improving safety on our highways. Through our efficient use of resources and cooperation from various agencies, we will be successful," Prather said.

Last year Kentucky had over 6,000 alcohol-related crashes, resulting in 214 deaths and over 3,400 injuries.

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Gov. Steve Beshear

Message from the Governor

Kentucky is making great strides in the area of highway safety, and I plan to continue these efforts with the newly restructured Office of Highway Safety within the Transportation Cabinet. Under the leadership of Secretary Joe Prather, Executive Director Chuck Geveden is charged with overseeing the two divisions of the Office of Highway Safety – Division of Highway Safety Programs and the Division of Incident Management.

The Division of Highway Safety Programs conducts educational programs in schools and communities, sponsors child safety seat checks and technician classes, and aids law enforcement with speed radar units and target enforcement area blitzes. It is also responsible for developing the Strategic Highway Safety Plan and issuing grants to the state's various highway safety partners.

The Division of Incident Management oversees the Transportation Operations Center (TOC) and the Safety Assistance for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) Patrol program. The TOC operates around the clock – 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Operators monitor traffic situations and handle dispatch for the SAFE Patrol, whose operators aid motorists and assist with incident management on 17 major routes in Kentucky.

Highway safety professionals often speak of the “Four E’s” of Highway Safety: Engineering, Enforcement, Education, and Emergency Response. However, nothing can be accomplished without the fifth E – Everyone. Highway safety is a shared responsibility and we look forward to working with each and every one of you to help create safer highways across the Commonwealth.

Executive Director
Chuck Geveden

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Kentucky State Police Commissioner Rodney Brewer said enforcement officers will be manning hundreds of checkpoints across Kentucky during the campaign. “Our message is simple—*Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* The goal is to get impaired drivers off of the roads,” Brewer said.

Prather said the Transportation Cabinet strives to educate the public on the dangers of drinking and driving and will continue working with law enforcement agencies around the state to help end these needless deaths.

“Despite our laws, we continue to see far too many people suffer as a result of impaired driving,” he said.

Driving with a BAC of 0.08 or higher is illegal in every state. All states also have Zero Tolerance laws, meaning it is illegal for anyone under 21 to drive after drinking any amount of alcohol.

Drunken driving plays a particularly significant role in motorcycle fatalities as well. Alcohol affects those skills essential to operating a motorcycle—balance and coordination. In 2006, 41 percent of motorcycle riders who died in single vehicle crashes had a BAC level of .08 or higher.



KSP Commissioner Rodney Brewer

REMINDER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Please fax your *Over the Limit, Under Arrest* mobilization reporting form by September 12 to 502.564.2629.

“Impaired driving is no accident, nor is it a victimless crime,” Johnson added. “Violators often face jail time, loss of their driver’s license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses. The greatest risk, however, is taking someone’s life.”

Highway Safety Programs target young drivers and passengers at KSU orientation

The Kentucky Office of Highway Safety partnered with the Kentucky State University Police Department, Aug. 11-15, to deliver incoming students a message about highway safety. Several programs were presented throughout the school's orientation week to urge safe driving habits that have the potential to save lives.



The Rollover Simulator spins at 19 miles per hour, ejecting the unbelted dummies while those buckled remain safely inside.

Programs conducted during the week focused on seat belt safety and the dangers of impaired driving. They included a rollover simulator and "Fatal Vision" demonstrations, a mock crash and a 3-D "Drunk and Drugged Driving" simulator demonstration.

The rollover simulator uses life-size dummies to demonstrate what could happen to unbelted occupants in a rollover crash. "Fatal Vision" glasses effectively simulate drug and alcoholic impairment.

test, arrested for impairment and placed inside a police car. Some victims are treated for injuries and one was pronounced "dead" and is taken away in a hearse.

The mock crash included use of selected students as "victims." In the scenario, the underage driver is given a field sobriety



Students attempt to walk the line while wearing "Fatal Vision" glasses.



With a Transportation Safety employee riding along, the "impaired" driver attempts to negotiate a designated driving course while wearing the "Fatal Vision" glasses.

The 3-D "Drunk and Drugged Driving" simulator exposes students to challenges and safety threats of driving under the influence. The student driver experiences what it is like to operate the vehicle while "impaired" while the passengers experience what it is like riding with an impaired driver.

Automobile crashes are the leading cause of death for 15- to 20-year-olds in the United States, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). On average, a crash involving an impaired driver kills someone nationwide every 30 minutes.

The risk of crashing rises dramatically with a driver's blood alcohol content at any age, and the effects are higher for drivers 16- to 20- years old than for those 35 to 49. No state permits drivers younger than 21 to drive after drinking, regardless of the amount.



EMS respond to the mock crash scene.



The "impaired driver" gets a field sobriety test during the mock crash.



A mock crash victim is loaded into an ambulance.

Child Passenger Safety Month activities coming to an area near you

National Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Week is September 21-27. In honor of this week, the Office of Highway Safety is extending awareness throughout September, celebrating Kentucky's third annual CPS Month.

As part of state level awareness activities, the Office of Highway Safety is sponsoring ten free child passenger safety seat inspections throughout the state. Certified technicians from Kentucky's Child Passenger Safety Team will educate participants on correct installation and usage and check for recalls or damage to the seat.

For the first time during Child Passenger Safety Month, instructors from the Division of Highway Safety Programs will coordinate CPS classes, partnering with the Marshall County Health Department on a technician renewal course and technician certification course in Fulton.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) statistics show more than 90 percent of child safety seats in the United States are installed incorrectly. When used correctly, child safety seats are 71 percent effective in reducing infant fatalities, 67 percent effective in reducing the need for hospitalization and 54 percent effective in reducing fatalities for children ages 1 to 4.



Technician Kristen Woods with the Office of Highway Safety fits the harness straps on a participant during Child Passenger Safety Month last year in Burlington.

Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Month Activities

September 4: CPS Inspection, Richmond, Eastside Baptist Church, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. EDT

September 5: CPS Inspection, Bowling Green, Broadway United Methodist Church, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. CDT

September 8: CPS Renewal Course, Murray

September 9-12: CPS Certification Course, Murray

September 12 (with above class): CPS Inspection, Benton, First Christian Church, 9 a.m. – noon CDT

September 16: CPS Inspection, Bardstown, Little Angels Primary House, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. EDT

September 18: CPS Inspection, London, Laurel County Fire Department, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. EDT

September 20: CPS Inspection, Florence Fire & EMS, Station Three, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. EDT

September 23: CPS Inspection, Madisonville Fire Department, Station Four, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. CDT

September 25: CPS Inspection, Mt. Vernon, Rockcastle County Court House, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. EDT

September 29: CPS Inspection, Prestonsburg, Music-Carter-Hughes, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. EDT

September 30: CPS Inspection, Hazard, Tim Short Chrysler, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. EDT



ATV Safety

All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) use has become popular for work and recreation. Unfortunately, research indicates a rise in fatalities and injuries involving ATVs, mostly due to driver misuse and inappropriate rider behavior. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Kentucky is second in the nation with over 140 total reported ATV deaths from 2003 to 2006, and number one in the nation for ATV deaths age 21 and under.

ATV Safety Tips



- ▶ Receive proper training on driving an ATV.
- ▶ Wear an approved helmet and protective clothing.
- ▶ Do not operate on paved roads and avoid unfamiliar terrain.
- ▶ Read the owner's manual carefully, and keep the ATV in good repair.
- ▶ Never carry a passenger on a single-rider ATV.
- ▶ Do not drive in adverse weather, hazardous terrain, or insufficient light.
- ▶ Do not take unnecessary risks such as performing stunts, driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or driving at excessive speeds.
- ▶ Children should never ride or be a passenger on an adult ATV, and should be supervised at all times.



Thirty-five percent of ATV related deaths involve people less than 16 years of age.*
Nearly one-half of all individuals injured in ATV crashes are under 16 years of age.*

Tips On Helmets

- ▶ Make sure the helmet is approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the American National Standards Institute, or the Snell Memorial Foundation.
- ▶ Make sure the helmet fits properly with comfortable padding, a seal around the ear, and a neck roll.
- ▶ Always fasten the chin strap so it doesn't come off in a crash.
- ▶ Helmets deteriorate with age and should be replaced after a maximum of five years (check manufacturer instructions). Helmets must also be replaced if involved in a crash, or a dent or crack is visible.
- ▶ Helmets protect your eyes and ears from the wind, therefore helping you to see and hear better. (If your helmet does not have a face shield, wear goggles.) By reducing the amount of wind, you will also be less fatigued!
- ▶ If your helmet has a face shield, make sure it's easy to open, stays in position when raised, and does not distort your view.



Over one in five ATV injuries involved head injuries (concussions and brain injuries).
Over one-half of ATV injuries did not wear any type of protective equipment.*

*Source: Brain Injury Association of Kentucky

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: What is Kentucky's ATV law?

A: "All-terrain vehicle" means any motor vehicle used for recreational off-road use. The law can be referenced at <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/krs/189-00/515.pdf>.

Q: What is Kentucky's ATV helmet requirement?

A: Riders under age 16 must wear a helmet at *all times*. Riders age 16 and over must wear a helmet on public property.

Q: Can I ride my ATV on the road?

A: No. ATVs are not designed for use on roadways, and it is against the law. The only allowable situation for an ATV to be on the road is for agricultural reasons. The law allows farmers to get from one property to another if their property is divided by a road.

Q: Does Kentucky register ATVs?

A: No. Registration allows a vehicle to be used on public roadways. An ATV cannot be made "street legal" and therefore cannot be registered.

Q: Does Kentucky require a Certificate of Title for ATVs?

A: It is optional. We will title an ATV if the customer has a Certificate of Origin or a Title that has been issued from another state.

Q: Is ATV rider training mandatory?

A: ATV Training is not mandatory in Kentucky, unless ordered by a judge for violations.

Q: Where can I find an ATV rider safety course?

A: Call 1-800-887-2887 or visit www.atvsafety.org for the ATV RiderCourseSM nearest you.

Q: Where can I find places to ride my ATV in Kentucky?

A: Discover the Commonwealth with our Interest Finder at <http://tourism.ky.gov/interestfinder.htm>.

Did You Know?



The top Kentucky counties in ATV deaths are Pike, Breathitt, Floyd, Harlan, Letcher, Clay, Leslie, Pulaski, Bell, Laurel, Perry, Trigg and Whitley.

Kentucky Recreational Trails Authority

<http://tourism.ky.gov/krtc>

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife

<http://fw.ky.gov>

Kentucky Sports Authority

<http://kysportsauthority.com>

Kentucky Department of Agriculture

www.kyagr.com

For Additional Information:

- 4-H Community ATV Safety Program: www.atv-youth.org
- American Academy of Pediatrics: www.aap.org
- ATV Safety Institute: www.atvsafety.org
- Brain Injury Association of Kentucky: www.biak.us
- Children's Safety Network: www.childrenssafetynetwork.org
- Consumer Product Safety Commission: <http://www.cpsc.gov>
- Farm Safety 4 Just Kids: www.fs4jk.org
- National Ag Safety Database: <http://www.cdc.gov/nasd>

SAFE Patrol drivers attend statewide training at General Butler State Park



All SAFE Patrol vehicles carry an AED machine (pictured above).

The Division of Incident Management held statewide training for all SAFE Patrol drivers at General Butler State Park July 27-29.

Topics included instruction on writing incident reports, policy updates, roadside assistance for hybrid vehicles and recertification on first aid, CPR and Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). The "I've Made an Impact" awards were presented to drivers that went above-and-beyond the call of duty.



SAFE Patrol driver Gary Buchanan recertifies in first aid and CPR.



2008 "I've Made an Impact" Awards

Each award recipient is pictured with Director Jeff Bibb, former Assistant Director Becky Myers, and Branch Manager Bill Hayes.



B. Hayes, Sonya Mattox, J. Bibb, East Region Supervisor Harvey Holbrook, B. Myers



B. Hayes, J. Bibb, Travis Barker, Harvey Holbrook, B. Myers



B. Hayes, J. Bibb, Leroy Carroll, West Region Supervisor JD Lee, B. Myers



B. Hayes, J. Bibb, Andre Vassalo, B. Myers, Central Region Supervisor Jay Postlewaite



B. Hayes, J. Bibb, Kevin Kelley, B. Myers, Jay Postlewaite



B. Hayes, J. Bibb, Jim Elliott, J.D. Lee, B. Myers



B. Hayes, J. Bibb, Sonya Mattox, Tony Pettit, Harvey Holbrook, and B. Myers

Safe and Sober enforcement hits US 60

A Safe and Sober enforcement crusade focused its efforts along 434 miles of US 60 through parts of Kentucky, West Virginia and Virginia. On Aug. 23, state and local law enforcement agencies conducted increased enforcement within the 22 Kentucky counties through which US 60 passes.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Office of Highway Safety is coordinating the event with local and state police departments. "The goal is to get impaired drivers off the roads," said Director Chuck Geveden. "Throughout the month of August, we'll be working with local agencies to focus on impaired driving laws and educate drivers about the horrendous consequences of driving drunk."

This enforcement activity was conducted as part of the *Over the Limit, Under Arrest* campaign going on through Labor Day.



Legends Fans Learn to *Click It or Ticket*



Assistant Director
Billie Johnson throws
out the first pitch.

Fans of Lexington Legends baseball learned the benefits of wearing a seat belt on Aug. 9 when the Office of Highway Safety promoted "Click It or Ticket."

Rollover demonstrations were held at the main entrance while a booth provided safety information and giveaways. With it also being Boy Scout Night at the park, it's no surprise that frisbees, wrist bands, and stress balls were a 'hit.' To inform those listening on the radio, Highway Safety employee Jack Hutchinson did an on-air interview with play-by-play announcer Rob Godel to discuss seat belt safety.

All Legends employees, including Godel, wore "Click It or Ticket" t-shirts to show their support of the campaign.



Boy Scout
Night at the
park brought
out young
drivers and
passengers.

Highway fatalities and rate reach historic low



According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the number of people who died on the nation's roads dropped again last year, reaching historically low levels.

In 2007, the overall number of traffic fatalities fell to 41,059, the lowest number since 1994. In addition, the fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 1.37, the lowest fatality rate on record. Injuries reduced as well with 2.49 million people injured in highway crashes last year, the lowest seen since the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) began collecting injury data in 1988.

We are currently on track for another reduction. Motor vehicle deaths for January through June of 2008 totaled 19,350. This figure is down 9 percent from the corresponding 6-month period in 2007. Disabling motor-vehicle injuries for the first six months of 2008 are estimated to be about 1,045,000, a 5 percent decrease from 2007.

NHTSA collects crash statistics annually from 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to produce annual reports on fatalities and injuries. To view the 2007 report in its entirety, visit

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811017.PDF>



Spotlight Employees

Shane Ratliff with the Division of Highway Safety Programs started his career in public safety as a volunteer firefighter in Pike County in 1993. After becoming a certified firefighter and emergency medical technician, he went on to receive fire and CPR/AED/First Aid instructor status.

Shane later served as a telecommunicator and civilian supervisor with the University of Kentucky Police Department, then as a communications specialist for the Port of Seattle Police. He achieved his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Kentucky State University in 1999 and also earned credits from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University before pursuing endeavors in law enforcement.



Shane Ratliff, coordinator for the Young Drivers program.

Shane currently serves as manager of the Young Driver's Program, SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) state coordinator, and as the chairman of the Young Drivers Committee of the Governor's Executive Committee on Highway Safety. In his free time, he continues his work as a fire instructor in Pike County and a firefighter and EMT for Lawrenceburg Fire & Rescue in Anderson County.

Jeremiah Harvey with the Division of Incident Management was hired as a driver for SAFE Patrol when the program expanded statewide in Sept. 2007. He is stationed in Daviess County and currently patrols the Audubon Parkway and sections of the Natcher, Western Kentucky and Pennyriple parkways.



SAFE Patrol Operator Jeremiah Harvey

Jeremiah regularly receives high praises from those he helps, whether it is changing a tire or adding air to a flat, providing gasoline and oil, or assisting emergency responders at an incident scene. Recent comments received include: *"I wish to thank Mr. Harvey for his courteous helpfulness in a time of need. This is a good service and he was a great help & wonderful person"* and *"On my way home I had a flat, Jeremiah saw me pull over and turned around to come help. Great guy! I was thankful for the help"*.

When Jeremiah isn't patrolling our roads looking for stranded motorists, he continues his public service as a supervisor with the Yellow Ambulance Company in Owensboro.

Total SAFE Patrol numbers (through Aug. 15, 2008)

Motorists Assists	14,183
Tagged Abandoned Vehicles	4,543
Traffic Control at Crash Scenes	860
Number of calls entered into Computer Aided Dispatch system	19,899

Mark your calendars!

DATE(S)	CAMPAIGN	SPONSOR(S)	WEBSITE(S)
September	National Child Passenger Safety Week (21-27) and Kentucky Child Passenger Safety Month	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Kentucky Office of Highway Safety	www.nhtsa.dot.gov http://highwaysafety.ky.gov
September 14-20	National Farm Safety and Health Week (ATV Safety)	National Safety Council	www.nsc.org
September 21-27	Operation Air Brake/Brake Safety Week	Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA)	www.cvsa.org
October 6-10	Drive Safely to Work Week	Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS)	www.trafficsafety.org/dssw.asp
October 8	International Walk or Bike to School Day	Safe Routes to School	www.walktoschool-usa.org
October 10	Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day	American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)	www.brakesonfatalities.org
October 19-25	National Teen Driver Safety Week	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)	www.chop.edu
October 19-25	National School Bus Safety Week	National Association of Pupil Transportation (NAPT)	www.napt.org
October 20-27	Operation Safe Driver	American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA), CVSA and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)	www.aamva.org www.cvsa.org www.fmcsa.dot.gov
October 23-31	National Red Ribbon Week	National Family Partnership	www.nfp.org/redribbon
October 24-31	Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving	NHTSA	www.stopimpaireddriving.org
October/November	Pay Attention to Deer	Kentucky Fish and Wildlife	http://fw.ky.gov

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<http://highwaysafety.ky.gov>